



*Architectural rendering of the new Pentagon Remote Delivery Facility to be located on the Mall Terrace lower parking lot.*

## Excavation Continues on Site of New Remote Delivery Facility

On May 17, 1999, construction began on a new one-story building of approximately 250,000 gross square feet to be located north of the Pentagon on the site currently occupied by the Mall Terrace lower parking lot.

The building, known as the Pentagon Remote Delivery Facility (RDF), will significantly improve the physical security of the Pentagon by providing a secure consolidated location for receiving and screening the thousands of items shipped to the building each day. Additionally, the RDF will house the Pentagon's shops and other light industrial operations as well as ancillary support functions. A Physical Plant consisting of generator and chilled water plants will be collocated within the RDF.

"The RDF will enhance the security of the Pentagon by diverting more than 150 trucks and other commercial vehicles away from the building each day," said John Jester, Chief, Defense Protective Service. "Over the past few years, terrorist events here in the U. S. and around

the world attest to the security lapses that can occur when commercial vehicles are able to park below or adjacent to occupied buildings."

Materials will be off-loaded at the RDF where they will be screened and then transported to the Pentagon through a connector tunnel. According to Wendy Thompson, project manager for the RDF, the first phase of the building will be ready for occupancy by August 30, 2000. "It is definitely an aggressive schedule," said Thompson. "Fortunately, we've assembled a highly professional and dedicated team that is prepared to do whatever is necessary to successfully execute this project."

The project has been progressing at a fast pace, with a great deal of coordination required both internally within the Pentagon and externally with outside agencies. Some of that external coordination involves meetings with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to look at ways to accommodate the deceleration and acceleration

needs of the freight vehicles bringing materials to the RDF from Route 27.

Perhaps the greatest challenge concerning the RDF lay in the hands of Tonya Tobe, Pentagon parking office manager. Tobe and her team had to find a way to offset, to the greatest extent possible, the loss of the approximately 600 parking spaces that will be eliminated May 15, 1999, due to construction. "It was no small task," said Tobe. "Parking spaces around the building are at a premium, but we looked closely at the existing allocations and feel we have adequately offset the losses in Mall parking."

The parking changes are detailed in Building Circular No. PBM 99-33 dated April 28, 1999.

When completed, the RDF will house approximately 175 employees and will include personnel from the Federal Facilities Division, the Pentagon Building Management Office, Defense Protective Service, the Defense Post Office, Food Services, and other support service personnel.